Notes

Project01 due tonight

- For 10 minute review meeting, please complete by next Monday at the latest
- Drop by office hours
- This afternoon after 3:30 by appointment (email me)
- Via Zoom appointment (email me)

Blackjack tournament

- Plan is 6:30pm Wednesday Nov 2nd, in G12. Let me know if this doesn't work for you
- Maybe 30 minutes, should be fun

Advanced Topics in Class Design

Fall 2022

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Member classes

Inheritance

Overriding Inherited Methods

Protected variables and methods

The protected Modifier

The protected modifier allows a **child** class to reference a variable or method in the **parent** class

It provides more encapsulation than public visibility, but is not as tightly encapsulated as private visibility

A protected variable is also visible to any class in the same package as the parent class

Visibility Revisited

It's important to understand one subtle issue related to inheritance and visibility

All variables and methods of a parent class, even private members, are inherited by its children

As we've mentioned, private members cannot be referenced by name in the child class

However, private members inherited by child classes exist and can be referenced indirectly

Visibility Revisited

Because the parent can refer to the private member, the child can reference it indirectly using its parent's methods

The ${\tt super}$ reference can be used to refer to the parent class, even if no object of the parent exists

```
// FoodItem.java
                  Author: Lewis/Loftus
//
^{\prime\prime} // Represents an item of food. Used as the parent of a derived class
// to demonstrate indirect referencing.
public class FoodItem
  final private int CALORIES_PER_GRAM = 9;
  private int fatGrams;
  protected int servings;
  //
Sets up this food item with the specified number of fat grams
// and number of servings.
  //----
  public FoodItem(int numFatGrams, int numServings)
    fatGrams = numFatGrams;
servings = numServings;
continue
```

The super Reference

Constructors are not inherited, even though they have public visibility

Yet we often want to use the parent's constructor to set up the "parent's part" of the object

The super reference can be used to refer to the parent class, and often is used to invoke the parent's constructor

A child's constructor is responsible for calling the parent's constructor

The super Reference

The $\underline{\text{first line}}$ of a child's constructor should use the \mathtt{super} reference to call the parent's constructor

The ${\tt super}$ reference can also be used to reference other variables and methods defined in the parent's class

An child's overriding method the Function() can call its parent the Function() by calling "super.the Function()"

```
continue

//-----
// Pages mutator.
//-----
public void setPages(int numPages)
{
    pages = numPages;
}

//-----
// Pages accessor.
//------
public int getPages()
{
    return pages;
}
```

```
Output
//******
                                                *****
// Words2.java
                 Number of pages: 1500
Number of definitions: 52500
                 Definitions per page: 35.0
public class Words2
  // Instantiates a derived class and invokes its inherited and
  // local methods.
  public static void main(String[] args)
     Dictionary2 webster = new Dictionary2(1500, 52500);
     System.out.println("Number of pages: " + webster.getPages());
     System.out.println("Number of definitions: " +
                      webster.getDefinitions());
     System.out.println("Definitions per page: " +
                      webster.computeRatio());
  }
}
```

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class Object

The Object Class

A class called Object is defined in the java.lang package of the Java standard class library

All classes are derived from the ${\tt Object}$ class

If a class is not explicitly defined to be the child of an existing class, it is assumed to be the child of the Object class

Therefore, the Object class is the ultimate root of all class hierarchies

Even classes you define yourself

The Object Class

The ${\tt Object}$ class contains a few useful methods, which are inherited by all classes

For example, the toString method is defined in the Object class

Every time we define the ${\tt toString}$ method, we are actually overriding an inherited definition

The Object Class

The equals method of the Object class returns true if two references refer to the same object (are "aliases")

We can override ${\tt equals}$ in any class to define equality in some more appropriate way

As we've seen, the String class defines the equals method to return true if two String objects contain the same characters

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static variables and methods

Static Class Member Variables

A ${\tt static}$ variable or member "belongs to the class", not to any particular object.

Math.PI

A static member is invoked through its <u>class name</u>, not an object name

Determining if a <u>variable</u> should be static is an important design decision

- Do values vary for different objects in the class, or not?
- Changing value of a static variable changes it for all objects in the class!

static <u>member functions</u> only can operate on static (and locally declared) variables, not nonstatic class variables!

Static Methods

```
public class Helper
{
   public static int cube(int num)
   {
      return num * num * num;
   }
}
```

Because it is declared as static, the ${\tt cube}$ method can be invoked through the class name:

```
value = Helper.cube(4);
```

Static Class Members

The order of the modifiers can be interchanged, but by convention visibility modifiers come first: "public static"

Recall that the ${\tt main}$ method is static — it is invoked by the Java interpreter without creating an object

```
// Slogan.java
           Author: Lewis/Loftus
//
// Represents a single slogan string.
public class Slogan
{
 private String phrase;
 private static int count = 0;
 //-----
 // Constructor: Sets up the slogan and counts the number of // instances created.
 //-----
 public Slogan(String str)
   phrase = str;
   count++;
 }
continue
```

Output

Remember the Alamo.

```
continue

    obj = new Slogan ("Live Free or Die.");
    System.out.println (obj);

    obj = new Slogan ("Talk is Cheap.");
    System.out.println (obj);

    obj = new Slogan ("Talk is Cheap.");
    System.out.println (obj);

    obj = new Slogan ("Write Once, Run Anywhere.");
    System.out.println (obj);

    System.out.println();
    System.out.println();
    System.out.println("Slogans created: " + Slogan.getCount());
}
```

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Class relationships

Class Relationships

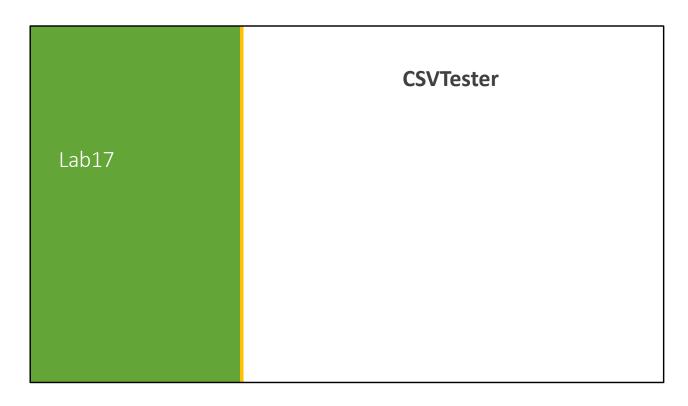
Classes in a software system can have various types of relationships to each other

Three of the most common relationships:

Inheritance: A is-a B
Dependency: A uses B
Aggregation: A has-a B

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Student is-a Person
Inventory uses Math
Student has-a String (name, address, etc)



Talk about CSV files, show example

Talk about assignment.

Strategies for success: read assignment line by line. Print out and check off reqts as they are completed. Ask questions where you don't understand something.